

## The Daily Press.

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## ASSAULTS UPON THE PRIMARY PLAN.

Discussing the proposition that has been advanced from some quarters that the Virginia Democracy ought to hold a convention this year, the Fredericksburg Free Lance says:

"We have all along held firmly to the idea that the primary plan of nominating Democrats for office would not work satisfactorily. Its enormous expense, which the candidates must bear, while a most serious objection, is still one of the minor objections. It now develops, as we predicted it would more than two years ago, that politicians, and the newspapers generally, which have been unwilling to listen to anything but primary nominations, to the exclusion of the convention system, are clamoring for a convention in order that the Democratic party may have an opportunity to go on record as to State issues."

"This scheme will obviously only add to the enormous expense now obtaining to get a candidate before the people. They have found the primary plan utterly lacking as a means of nomination and defining issues, and have learned that it needs to be bolstered up by a convention in addition to prevent individuals from propounding platforms for the party. The only sure relief is to return to the convention plan, which is less expensive, performs the double service of nominating the candidate and propounding the party's principles at one and the same time, while it creates enthusiasm and not dissensions as the primary plan has invariably done."

As this newspaper formerly stated it is not clamoring for a convention this year. It is not absolutely convinced that a convention will be necessary in any year, provided candidates always evince a readiness to answer questions regarding their views propounded by the press and the people.

A few newspapers in the State have made bold to seize upon the suggestion that a convention be held to renew the antagonism which has ever been smoldering in the breasts of one branch of the Democracy in Virginia against the primary system. Not alone the particular primary plan now in force, but all sorts of primaries.

We do not believe that a single proponent of the convention idea has in mind the total elimination of the primary and the restoration of the convention method of nominations as a substitute therefor.

If, as the Free Lance asserts, "politicians generally have been unwilling to listen to anything but primary nominations" the Daily Press has been "scorped" on the news. On information is that most of the politicians abominate the primary system of nomination and would be glad to return to the mass meeting system of malodorous memory and the convention nomination. When we say "politicians," we do not mean to include every man who takes an active and energetic interest in politics, nor every man who holds an office. Reference is had to the fellows who are on duty at the State's political switchboard and manipulate the wires which reach out to every section.

The Daily Press believes that candidates for office should be nominated

by primary, but that the State should bear the expense, just as it foots the bills of a general election. Further, we believe that all candidates for State, municipal and county offices should be nominated on the same day and that provision should be made for a second day primary in order that no man shall go before the people as a party nominee who has not received a majority—not a plurality, but a majority—of the votes cast in the primary election.

Under this system, the man without funds but possessing ability to discharge the duties of public office would be able to combat the man of the plethoric purse who perhaps may be devoid of the other essential qualifications.

FOREIGN NAVAL PROGRAMS.  
Mr. Lewis Nixon, designer and builder of warships, declares that he expects to see within the next five years the most terrific war in the world's history between England and Germany.

He believes the crisis will come with the conclusion by England that she can whip the German navy as it now stands, but as it may stand one, two or three years hence the issue would be in doubt.

This expression of opinion leads the Boston Globe to remark:

"It would seem that England in building the first dreadnought—17,900 tons of steel, 23,000 horsepower engines, 10 12-inch guns and 90 smaller ones, with 865 men to run it—made a serious mistake. This she did when her supremacy was unquestioned. By building a dreadnought, did she not practically destroy the rest of her navy, and give every other nation a chance to start even with her? Evidently Germany thought so. Perhaps, therefore, in this frequent changing of battleship types, lie the hopes of those who love peace and deplore war."

It was stated in the British House of Commons a week ago that by 1912 Germany would have seventeen battleships of the Dreadnought type. A Berlin correction reduced the number to thirteen.

There is no special reason for believing that Germany is spoiling for a fight with England except a sort of personal antagonism between the two peoples. There are many reasons for suspecting that the German government has designs upon South America, particularly Brazil, to which territory millions of her subjects have emigrated.

Unless the United States be ready to abandon the Monroe Doctrine and suspend its aspirations to be regarded as a real world power, with the ships and men to back its pretensions, this country has got to build big battleships and build them quickly.

## HOW STATE-WIDE WORKS.

A wall comes from a Tennessee editor against state-wide prohibition which should cause every advocate of that principle to pause and think. Says the scribe in the office of the Sevierville Vindicator:

"We could get over a drunk in two days before Tennessee went dry, but now it takes us two weeks to get straightened out after getting drunk on the stuff the state-wide has given us."

However, there are two sides to the question. Two weeks wear and tear upon the constitution in the process of sobering up should have a tendency to discourage future toying with the "blind tiger" commodity.

Still, considered from the economical standpoint, as the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot points out, if a man wishes to go upon a two week's spree it is better for his purse that he be enabled to gratify his desire by a total expenditure of seven cents in "blind tiger" poison than be forced to renew every two days at a cost of from ten to fifteen cents a drink.

Of course the state-wide law, according to the Vindicator's editor, is an inconvenience to the fellow who doesn't wish to be drunk ever forty-eight hours. But think what a boon it is to the individual who desires to revel in one grand, glorious unending orgy!

The Sevierville editor will either have to clamber to a seat upon the water wagon or join the ranks of the eldion-sobers.

## REPUBLICAN MEMBERS ARE CAUGHT NAPPING

(Continued From First Page.)

hundred if unattended and \$1 a hundred if attended, on all filler tobacco imported from countries which prohibit similar importations.

Cotton Cloth Schedule.  
In order to meet the decision in regard to the counting of cotton cloth, paragraph 318 of the bill was

## PROPER CLOTHES FOR MEN

**Peyser Says QUALITY**

Is the first thing to consider when buying a suit. Then the workmanship, the style, and the general make up. And then the price. See that you get the best for your money when you go to buy a suit. That's what we do when we go to buy our stock. That you may find here the best the market affords.

**SEE OUR SPRING SELECTION**

**2715**

WASHINGTON AVENUE  
Newport News, Va.

stricken out and the provision of the Dingley law on the same subject was restored in its stead.

Jacquard figured goods for upholstery, covers, etc., composed wholly or in chief, of cotton and other vegetable fiber, were given protection by levying a duty of fifty per cent. ad valorem.

A tax of 45 per cent. ad valorem also was put upon tire fabrics or fabrics used for pneumatic tires. The effect of this provision will be to place the duty on the long staple cotton used in the fabrics.

A duty of 20 per cent. ad valorem was put on cotton, bleached and purified, whether medicated or not. The dividing line between the high and low rates of duty on oil cloth and linoleum was fixed at 11 feet instead of nine feet as originally introduced. It was twelve feet in the Dingley law.

Collars and Cuffs Protected.  
The amendment restoring the Dingley rates of 45 cents per dozen pieces and 15 per cent. ad valorem on collars and cuffs composed of cotton was agreed to.

Because of an inadvertence in consolidating the paragraph covering laces and articles of silk and India rubber, the duty on binders, garters and suspenders was increased.

Mr. Hill, Connecticut, offered a committee amendment to have retained the duties now levied in the Dingley law.

Mr. Fitzgerald, New York, claiming that he acted in the interest of all the American people whom he wished to see wear silk suspenders and garters, offered an amendment reducing the duties thirty per cent. ad valorem on suspenders and garters and forty per cent. in the paragraph for laces. Upon a division vote, this amendment was lost and the committee amendment agreed to.

Mr. Jujo, Louisiana, spoke in favor of a committee amendment offered by Mr. Broussard, Louisiana, exempting rice from the provisions permitting the free entry of products of the Philippine islands. The amendment making rice the only exception to the Philippines free trade provisions, was agreed to by a rising vote.

Duty on Toys.  
The Dingley paragraph placing a duty on toys was restored with a proviso that only articles intended as playthings for children shall be admitted as toys. The House adjourned at 6:58 until tomorrow.

## BRITISH TORPEDO BOAT SUNK IN COLLISION

All Members of Crew Were Saved—Was of 550 Tons and Carried 70 Men.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, April 8.—The British torpedo boat destroyer Blackwater was sunk at midnight Wednesday night off Loughswilly as a result of a collision with the British steamer Hero. The crew of the Blackwater was saved. The Hero had her bows stove in.

The Blackwater had a displacement of 550 tons and was 225 feet long. She had a complement of 70 men and was capable of steaming 25 knots an hour.

## FIRE EXTINGUISHED.

Injection of Steam Did Work—Damaged Cargo Removed.  
(By Associated Press.)

NORFOLK, Va., April 8.—Fire which broke out late yesterday in the cargo of the Italian steamship Minorensio, Captain Zicell, from New Orleans to Genoa via Norfolk for bunker coal, was extinguished after the pouring of steam for eighteen hours into the vessels. No. 4 hold, where the fire occurred, the hatches were raised and the removal of the burned and smoldering bales of cotton began. The full damage has not yet been ascertained.

## Hampton, Phoebus and Old Point

## TRIAL NEARS ITS CLOSE

Sampson Murder Case Probably Will Go to Jury Today.

## GUN EXPERT ON STAND FOR STATE

Testimony Tends to Show That Death

Wound of Husband of Accused Woman Could Not Have Been Inflicted by Himself.

(By Associated Press.)

LYONS, N. Y., April 8.—The State's case against Mrs. Georgia Allyn Sampson, the young woman charged with killing her husband, Harry Sampson, last November, practically came to a close today. The prosecution will rest its case tomorrow morning when Albert Hamilton, a gun expert, concludes his testimony.

The defense's testimony will be brief and it is the general expectation that the case will go to the jury late tomorrow afternoon.

Early today when District Attorney Gilbert sought to place the black outer shirt of Harry Sampson in evidence, Justice Rich ruled against its admission, because sufficient ground had not been established for its introduction. Without the shirt in evidence the State would not be able to show that the bullet hole was not a contact shot, and that Sampson was fired at from a distance, thus precluding the theory of suicide.

## State Finally Introduces Shirt.

But District Attorney Gilbert succeeded in getting the outer shirt in evidence this afternoon through the gun expert of the defense, Alfred H. Hamilton, who placed the undershirt within the black shirt so as to show the perforation in both shirts made by the bullet coincided.

Expert testimony consumed the major portion of the afternoon session and Mr. Hamilton afforded testimony that was unshaken after an exhaustive cross examination. He produced pieces of cloth of material like that of the two shirts and showed the results of firing of a rifle from different distances.

## No Powder Mark.

There were no powder marks, no powder stains or evidences of fired gunpowder at 48 inches, but inside of that distance there were powder marks and stains varying according to the distance of the rifle muzzle from the cloth.

Witness testified that the outer shirt of Harry Sampson showed only a speck of powder stain and left the inference with the jury that the rifle which killed Sampson was held about four feet from his breast when it was discharged.

## PERMIT NECESSARY.

Maryland Excludes Corpses From Virginia Under Health Laws.

RICHMOND, VA., April 8.—Maryland will not permit bodies of persons who die in this State to be carried into that State without the necessary permit under the health laws of the county. A week or more a death occurred in the Northern Neck and the members of the family desired that the burial be made in Baltimore. The body was properly embalmed by an undertaker of that section. In a casket and box, the body was placed aboard a steamer and forwarded to Baltimore. The undertaker failed to get the necessary transit permit and the Maryland health authorities refused to let the body be taken from the vessel. The result was that the body was brought back to Virginia and given sepulchre in one of the Eastern Shore counties.

Dr. Ennon G. William, state health commissioner, discussing the matter today, said:

"The story is substantially correct as printed, and only goes to show what sad results may follow the neglect or lack of information on the part of some local authorities. There is an interstate agreement between Maryland, Delaware and Virginia which requires that when a body is shipped from one State to another it be embalmed in a specified manner and be accompanied by a special permit authorizing the shipment of the body. The Maryland authorities had no alternative in the matter, however much they regretted the necessity of ordering the body sent by rail or by water from one place to another in the State, as well as from Virginia. Some local authorities overlook the fact that when a body is sent by rail or by water from one place to another in the State, as well as from Virginia to another State, it must have the necessary permit. The health department has recently sent out a number of these permits to all the medical members of the county boards of health, and there is no excuse for failing to use them when a body is shipped."

## HEARING ON PAPER.

Publishers and Manufacturers Heard by Two Senators.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 8.—Paper manufacturers and newspaper publishers were given a hearing last night by Senator Aldrich, chairman and Senator Smoot, of the Senate committee on Finance, in relation to

their differences over the wood pulp and print paper schedule in the proposed tariff bill.

The manufacturers were represented by C. W. Lyman, of the International Paper Company; Arthur C. Hastings, of the American Paper & Pulp Association; G. F. Steele, of the Grand Rapids & Michigan mills and W. B. Dillon, of the Great Northern Paper Company.

The publishers were represented by John Norris, chairman of the committee on paper of the American Publishers' Association.

Mr. Dillon made the interesting statement that for an annual output of 135,000 tons the Great Northern Paper Company, of Maine, charged an average price of 2 cents per pound or \$40 dollars a ton, delivered.

Mr. Dillon said that his company would begin on May 1 next a daily shipment of 300 tons to the New York city market.

## HOPE OF SETTLEMENT.

Operators and Coal Miners Will Meet Again Today.

(By Associated Press.)  
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 8.—The conference between the operators and miners here this afternoon adjourned after a session lasting more than two hours to meet tomorrow. There is no change in the situation. No formal statement was given out, but it is thought the differences will be amicably adjusted.

The miners' representatives presented a modified proposition at the conference. In this new proposal the miners agree to the renewal of the recently expired wage agreement with a few changes.

## Messing Again Shaken.

(By Associated Press.)  
MESSINA, April 8.—A violent earthquake was experienced here last night at 9:45 o'clock. It was accompanied by subterranean rumblings.

"Charity" on your prescriptions. Congdon fills them free. 2-14-1m

## Sand and Gravel!

Sand for building purposes, taken from James River at Newport News Point, COURSE OR FINE. Guarantee all grades. Prepared to handle any size contract. Sand delivered in Hampton or Newport News \$1.00 per load. Special price to contractors. Call phone No. 3 or No. 566-J. Office Bank of Hampton Building.

J. V. Bickford,  
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The Hampton Floral Company has just received the prettiest display of

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Port, per gal. .... \$1.00  
Sherry, per gal. .... 1.00  
Claret, per gal. .... 1.00  
Sweet Catawba, per gal. .... 1.00  
Tokay, per gal. .... 1.00  
Blackberry, per bottle .... .35  
Rhine Wine, per bottle .... .50  
Duff's Malt Whiskey, per bot. .... .50  
Whiskies in bulk at the following:  
Bourbon Whiskey, per gal. .... \$1.50  
Parkwood ..... 2.00  
Star & Rye, straight ..... 2.25  
Old Charter, straight ..... 2.50  
Paul Jones ..... 2.75  
Hunter ..... 4.00  
Harper ..... 4.00  
Double Stamp Gin ..... 2.00  
All bottle body 50 per bottle; 50c per dozen. Watch my imitations!

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Original Price Cutter,  
PHOEBUS, VIRGINIA

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IEST MAKES AT

## SCHRAUDT'S BOOK STORE

## Just Received, New Display of the Latest Fruits Imported Hats and Trimmings!

IT'S WORTH A TRIP TO THE STORE TO SEE THESE ATTRACTIVE HEAD GARMENTS.  
NEW LINE OF HATS ARE HERE. YOU WANT YOURS FOR EASTER? THEN GIVE US THE ORDER TODAY.

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## Lovely Creations in Millinery!

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MRS. I. M. STACEY'S EMPORIUM

WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY ALL WHO VISITED THE STORE THAT OUR DISPLAY IS THE PRETTIEST AND THE WISE BUYER IS CONVINCED THAT OUR PRICES ARE THE MOST ATTRACTIVE.

MRS. I. M. STACEY

Beasley-Bush Old Stand. Collier Building.

## SWEET POTATO SEED, COW PEAS, SOJA BEANS, TRUCK BARRELS, PEA BASKETS

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